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and on earth, peace, good-will to men!" On the tomb whence he has gone forth, as from the cradle of his new life, Christ himself has said, "I have conquered the world, I give you my peace!" The future will reap the promise of the angels, and the present of Christ, the double hosanna of his cradle and of his tomb. The future belongs not to violence, but to gentleness; and it will be the accomplishment of that other declaration, one of those which shall not pass away, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth!"

**FATHER HYACINTHE ON DEFENSIVE WAR.**—"If it were a war of independence, I should be the first, if not to engage in it, at least to preach for it. If the flag of France was on the frontier to defend, not to attack, rent with balls, blackened with smoke, reddened with blood, we should surround it, and it should not fall back. Dear, glorious flag! if the hands of soldiers failed it, those of the women would cling to its staff, and it would not fall back."

This extract shows the type of logic which the peace movement on the continent of Europe has reached. It has in it very little of thorough, well-considered Christian principle, while it vehemently protests against the general war-system. It is far in the rear of our own society, but is going, with all the light it has, in the right direction, and aiming or tending to the same ultimate end with ourselves. We bid them God-speed.

#### OUR WESTERN CORRESPONDENCE.

In my last letter I reported efforts for the Peace Cause up to about the first of September. Since then a press of other duties has left but little time for writing for the Advocate; and this letter must suffice for most of September and October.

On my way home from Minnesota, a Sabbath was spent at Rockton, Ill., where the Peace Cause was presented in the M. E. Church in the morning, and at a Union Meeting held in the Congregational Church in the evening. I was met here by Rev. John Watson, a long tried friend of our cause, who, though aged and infirm, is devoting some time to it as an agent.

Office duties kept me home several days after my return; but I had an opportunity of presenting our cause again at Marengo, Ill., on the 19th of Sept., and of making some efforts for it in that place afterwards. While there, I was greatly indebted to our zealous friend, J. M. Dietz, Esq., for kind hospitality, for a life-membership pledge, and for his assistance in canvassing. When I first thought of entering the service of the American Peace Society, I did not know a dozen Peace men in all the west; but I have found them in every place which I have visited; and Mr. Dietz was one of the first, and has continued one of the best of them.

Sunday, Sept. 26th, found me at Chebouse, a small village on the Illinois Central R. R., about 60 miles south of Chicago, where, as usual, the Peace Cause was presented both morning and evening. The next day I had an interesting interview with Rev. A. D. Wyckoff, who was a chaplain in the Union army, and accompanied Gen. Sherman in his march to the sea. He gave me some thrilling statements of scenes which he witnessed, showing the horrors of war, and which, I hope, he will write out for publication in our paper. I will anticipate him only by repeating a statement not published at the time, viz., that during the destruction of Columbia, S. C., some 200 of our own soldiers were said to have been burned to death.

There is hardly a village in the United States where there are not families who have been bereft of friends by the bloody strife; and Chebouse is no exception to the rule. I found one couple here who had lost three sons by the rebellion,—all, I think, that they had. Their daughter readily consented to become a local agent of our Society, and thus help prevent another one.

Returning to Chicago on Thursday, I found an invitation to attend the "Indiana yearly meeting of Friends," in session at Richmond, Ind.; and with the hope of meeting several fellow-laborers there, I concluded to accept it. Twenty years ago this would have been a formidable undertaking—indeed would have been impossible on so short a notice. But on Friday evening I encased myself in one of the cars of the Chicago, Columbus, and Cincinnati R. R.; and the next morning found myself

in the beautiful Quaker City of Richmond, some 200 miles distant. I need hardly say that I was much interested in what I saw and heard there, and especially in what was done for the Peace Cause. An interesting report was presented, and \$1200 appropriated by this meeting, as a part of the \$5,000 to be made up by the various yearly meetings for the promotion of this cause during the present year. In addition to this amount given to the Friends' Peace Association from the general funds of the denomination, this society has what it can get from individuals besides. With this money it is scattering Peace publications far and wide, and sustaining some of the best lecturers in the country.

On Sunday evening a Peace meeting was held in the Pearl street M. E. Church, and addressed by Wm. G. Hubbard, agent of the Friends' Peace Association, by Mrs. Elva P. Gause, one of the agents of the American Peace Society, and by the writer. I expected a good address from Mr. Hubbard, for I had heard him before, and was not disappointed. But that of Mrs. Gause was even better than I anticipated. For about half an hour she held an interested audience while she described, with modest mien, and well-chosen words, the guilt and evils of war, and plead for its abolition. When women suffer so much from war, there is no impropriety in their laboring both publicly and privately to prevent it; and I wish we had a hundred female agents, especially such as Mrs. Gause, to work in this capacity.

A day or two at home, and then off again to attend the Rock River Conference of the M. E. Church, in session at Freeport, Ill., 120 miles west of Chicago. A committee on the Peace Cause was appointed soon after my arrival; and before the conference adjourned, it adopted an excellent report and resolution in relation to this cause. As this was the first ecclesiastical body whose endorsement I had solicited during my brief connection with the American Peace Society, I was much encouraged by the readiness with which it was granted. And yet why should we not have the co-operation of all ministers? They are ambassadors of the Prince of Peace; and nothing interferes with their efforts at home or abroad so much as war.

At about the same time the Wisconsin Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church—a church which has incorporated *Peace* in its discipline as an article of religion—passed a strong resolution in condemnation of war.

Christian ministers have sufficient influence on their congregations, and Christian churches on the nations of Christendom, to hold back the demon of war, if they would. When they are led to view it as the early Christians did, they assuredly will.

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**COMMENDATIONS OF PEACE.**—The *Rock River Conference* of the Methodist Ep. Ch., on the report of a special committee on the subject, consisting of Revs. W. P. Jones, O. E. Burck and R. K. Bibbins, to the effect "that the ends which the American Peace Society seeks to promote, as expressed in its published books, tracts and papers, and by its agents, viz., the prevention of war by Negotiation, Arbitration, and a Congress of Nations, and the establishment of perpetual good-will among men, are such as commend themselves on the broadest grounds of Christian philanthropy to every Christian heart, and especially to those to whom is committed a dispensation of the gospel of peace. It is therefore

*Resolved*, That we approve of the position and object of the American Peace Society, will heartily welcome its representatives to our various fields of labor, and commend them to the favorable consideration of our people.

**THE WISCONSIN ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH ON WAR.**—"We record our distinct testimony against international war as antagonizing Christianity both in precept and principle, absorbent of money, wasteful of property, generative of vice, and destructive of human life beyond parallel in any other established usage of society. It is, therefore, most plainly alike the duty and the interest of all, and especially of the Christian church, to disown and discourage the practice of war between nations."

**BISHOP WARBURTON** says, "I look upon war as the blackest mischief ever breathed from hell, upon the fair face of this creation."